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through two adjacent slits in the other ribbon so that the passing ribbon is not visible between the two slits (over-through-under-through-over); one ribbon passes through two adjacent slits in the other ribbon so that the passing ribbon is only visible between the two slits (under-through-over-through-under).

5 11. A method of visually representing data as defined in claim 10,  
wherein said slits are made substantially perpendicular to the longitudinal  
direction of the passing ribbon whereby each of said intersection forms enables  
one ribbon to be visually dominant.

10 12. A method of visually representing data as defined in claim 10,  
wherein, said single slit can be made substantially diagonal to the longitudinal  
direction of both ribbons at the point of overlap so that neither ribbon will be  
visually dominant.

15 13. A method of visually representing data as defined in claim 4,  
wherein said weave is one of a plurality of weaves, each weave representing a  
set of relationships between each first and second items or groups of data of  
each weave, said weaves forming a map of said sets of relationships.

20 14. A method of visually representing data, as defined in claim 13,  
wherein selected ribbons pass from one weave to another, within the same map,  
each ribbon passing from one weave to another representing the same item or  
group of data in each weave.

15. A system for visually representing in a computer generated graphic  
image the relationships between single items or groups of data, the system  
comprising:

25 means for generating a first elongate ribbon in a form suitable for  
graphic display in a first visually distinct manner;

means for attaching a first item or group of data to said first  
ribbon;

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means for generating a second elongate ribbon in a form suitable for graphic display is a second visually distinct manner;

means for attaching a second item or group of data to said second ribbon;

5 means for generating an intersection for a point at which said first and second ribbons overlap by weaving the two ribbons in a visually distinct form suitable for graphic display;

means for displaying said first and second ribbons together with said intersection as a graphic image on a display means;

10 wherein said intersection is used to provide a visual indication of a relationship between said first and second items or groups of data that can be more readily ascertained by viewing the displayed graphic image.

16. A system for visually representing data as defined in claim 15, wherein said means for generating a first ribbon is capable of generating a plurality of said first ribbons so as to form a first ribbon group, and said means for attaching a first item or group data is capable of attaching a plurality of first items or groups of data to said respective first ribbons and in said ribbon group.

17. A system for visually representing data as defined in claim 16, wherein said means for generating a second ribbon is capable of generating a plurality of said second ribbons so as to form a second ribbon group, and said means for attaching a second item or group of data is capable of attaching a plurality of second items or groups of data to said respective second ribbons in said second ribbon group.

18. A system for visually representing data as defined in claim 17, 25 wherein said means for generating an intersection is capable of a plurality of intersections which together with the ribbons form a weave of said first and second ribbon groups.

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19. A system of visually representing data as defined in claim 18, which includes a means for querying a knowledge base for data to be represented by one of the ribbons.
20. A system of visually representing data as defined in claim 19, 5 which includes a means for querying a knowledge base for data to be represented by another ribbon that is to be added to the weave.
21. A system of visually representing data as defined in claim 20, 10 which includes a means for a user to input information to be represented by one of the ribbons.
22. A system of visually representing data as defined in claim 21, which includes a means for a user to input information to be represented by another ribbon that is to be added to the weave.
23. A system of visually representing data as defined in claim 20, 15 which includes a means for a user to enter the relationship between the said first and second items or groups of data.
24. A system of visually representing data, as defined in claim 21 which includes a means for querying a knowledge base for the relationship between the said first and second items or groups of data.